

OUR JUDGING DEPARTMENT
HAVING BEEN REPLEN-
ISHED with a large as-
ortment of the latest
and American NOVELTIES,
we are prepared to execute
orders for FANCY WORK with
accuracy and despatch, and at
very moderate rates.
CHINA MAIL OFFICE.

The China Mail.

SOLD MEDALS, PARIS 1875-1889
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S
PENS.
Of Highest Quality, & Having Greatest
Durability, are Manufactured
in England.
The only Award, Chicago, 1893.
NUMBERS FOR USE BY BANKERS,
Barrel Pens, 250, 300, 350, 400, 450,
500, 550, 600, 650, 700, 750, 800,
In Fine, Medium, and Broad Points,
The New Turned-up Point, 1893.

No. 10,865 號二十月二十年七十九百八千一英 HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1897. 日九十月一十年四丁 PRICE, \$2.50 PER MONTH.

Business Notices.

"NB" Norman Brown
WHISKY.
Ten Years Old



Sold by LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., G. GIRAULT, at THOMAS'S GRILL ROOM, and all Retail Stores.

White Horse
Old Blend Whisky
Cellar



MACKIE & COY. DISTILLERS LTD.,
GLASGOW, GLENLIVET, AND GLASGOW.
W. G. HUMPHREYS & Co.,
Agents.

CAPABLE CORRESPONDENT AND
BOOK-KEEPER-WANTED.
W. ROBINSON & Co.
Hongkong, December 17, 1897. 2473

A. S. WATSON & CO. LIMITED.
NOTICE is hereby given that, in ac-
cordance with the Special Resolution
passed on the 11th December, 1897,
and confirmed on the 28th December, 1897,
and in consequence of the death of JOHN
DAVID HUMPHREYS, on the 8th instant, the
FIRM OF JOHN D. HUMPHREYS AND
SON has become the General Managers of
the COMPANY.
By Order, A. H. MANCILL,
Secretary.
Hongkong, November 23, 1897. 2440

H. F. CARMICHAEL,
Consulting Engineer and Surveyor,
18, PRAYA CENTRAL,
BEGS to announce that from this date
he intends to carry on Business at the
above address, and that he is prepared to
supply DRAWINGS and SPECIFICATIONS
for all classes of ENGINEERING WORK.
Repairs Supervised and Surveys Undertaken.
Hongkong, April 26, 1897. 840

NOTICE.
I HAVE REMOVED from No. 4,
HOLLYWOOD ROAD, to No. 50, HOLLY-
WOOD ROAD.
H. M. H. NEMAZEE.
Hongkong, December 15, 1897. 2459

WELL WORTH A CALL!
FINE DISPLAY OF
HIGH CLASS JEWELLERY
SUITABLE FOR
NEW YEAR & CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.
Comprising:-
Latest Novelties in expensive BRACELETS,
RINGS, CHAINLETTERS, &c., &c.
Unmounted, Freestones, Stones of every
description, selected and set to order.
CHRONOMETERS, CHRONOCLOCKS, Repen-
ants and Plain Watches in great variety.
FANCY MONDIES.
LEVY BROMANSON,
Hongkong, December 14, 1897. 840

W. ROBINSON & Co.
HIGH QUALITY, LOW PRICE.
EASY MONTHLY PAYMENTS.



W. POWELL & Co.
IMMENSE STOCK OF
CHRISTMAS PRESENTS
AND
Toys! Toys!! Toys!!!
W. POWELL & Co.
Hongkong, December 11, 1897. 2415

JUST LANDED.
EX. S. S. 'CHINA.'
AMERICAN ROLL BUTTER,
\$1.60 per Roll.
THE HONGKONG BUTCHERY Co.,
11, 13 and 15, Central Market. 2291

VICTORIA DISPENSARY.
DAKIN'S ANISEED AND LICORICE COUGH BALSAM.
For the Relief of all C-TYPHUS, COLIC, BRONCHITIS, and all Diseases of the CHEST and LUNGS.
Price 50 CENTS and \$1.
CRICKSHANK'S COUGH BALSAM.
For Coughs, Colds, BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, CONSUMPTION, whooping COUGH,
BRONCHITIS, and all Diseases of the CHEST and LUNGS.
Price 50 CENTS and \$1.
VICTORIA DISPENSARY,
QUEEN'S ROAD. 2342

PEAK HOTEL.
1350 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL.
A FIRST-CLASS HOTEL adjoining the Tramway Terminus. FINE HEALTHY
LOCATION, Commanding Magnificent View of the City and Harbour, the Mainland
of China, and Islands; cool and breezy in Summer, with perfect protection against
the North-East winds in Winter.
A Covered Way has been constructed from the Station to the Hotel.
The Hotel is now under European Management.
GEO. J. CASANOVA, Manager.
CITY OFFICE, No. 7, Duddell Street. 1754

CHAMPAGNES.

	12 doz.	2 doz.
MONT and CHANDON'S DRY IMPERIAL, 1899...	\$47.00	\$49.00
LEBEAU & Co., DRY, EXTRA QUALITY...	35.00	37.00
H. LEROY & Co., GRAND EXTRA DRY...	31.00	33.00
EDOUARD CHATELAIN, DRY and 'SWEET'...	30.00	32.00
MESLEARD & Co., 'DRY' and 'MEDIUM'...	27.00	29.00
Do, C.S. 4 doz. & 1/2 doz. 300.00	13.00	14.00
PAUL ROUVET and FIEB, SAUVIGNON...	12.00	14.00
BARON DE LAMAR, Do.	12.00	14.00

SOLE AGENTS:
H. PRICE & Co.,
No. 12, Queen's Road, Central. 2433

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL STEAM
NAVIGATION COMPANY
WILL dispatch VESSELS to the Undermentioned PORTS on the DATES
named:-
FOR STEAMSHIP CAPTAIN DATE
SHANGHAI N'KI R. R. PRARON About 24th December.
Kobe & YOKO Ceylon E. R. DOWELL, R.N. About 26th December.
SHANGHAI Thames E. STREET Noon, 30th December.
LONDON, &c. China * E. STREET Noon, 30th December.
YOKO KOBÉ & F. N. TILLARD Noon, 31st December.
YOKOHAMA Rosetta * F. N. TILLARD Noon, 31st December.
LONDON Malacca N. P. POLLOCK, R.N. About 7th Jan, 1898.
* See Special Advertisement.
For Freight or Passage, and further Particulars, apply to
H. A. RITCHIE, Superintendent.
P. & O. R. Co.'s Office, Hongkong, December 21, 1897.

Business Notices.

BELL'S ASBESTOS EASTERN AGENCY, Ltd.,
HONGKONG HOTEL-PRAYA.
SOLE EASTERN AGENTS FOR:
ALUMINIUM & GENERAL FOUNDRY STN. LTD., NEW WIRE WOVE ROOFING CO.
SNOWDON SON'S & Co., 'SNOWDRIFT' GEIPEL'S STEAM TRAP.
BERGER & SONS' LTD., PAINTS & VARNISH, TURTON BROS. & MATTHEWS' STN. & GOODS
W. WILSON COBBETT, (SATURN AND SCANDINAVIA BELTING).
Bell's Packings and Jointings are used by the British, French,
Russian, Italian, Swedish and Spanish Navies, also by
Principal English, Colonial and South American
Railway Companies.
W. JACKSON, Manager.

XMAS & NEW YEAR GOODS.
JUST RECEIVED.

LADIES' HAND BAGS, PERFUME CASES,
TOILET-NECESSARIES, PHOTO-FRAMES, ALBUMS,
PURSES, PORTMONNAIES, JEWEL CASES,
INKSTANDS, OPERA GLASSES, FIELD GLASSES,
MUSIC CASES, WRITING DESKS, BLOTTERS,
SCISSORS IN FANCY CASES, POCKET BOOKS,
CARD CASES, &c., &c., &c.

STANDARD & TABLE LAMPS,
TANTALUS SPIRIT STANDS.
DECORATIVE TABLE GLASSWARE.
MEERSCHAUM PIPES, BRIAR PIPES,
CIGAR CASES, CIGAR AND CIGARETTE HOLDERS,
PIPE RACKS, TOBACCO POUCHES.

TOYS! TOYS! TOYS!!
ROCKING HORSES, DOLLS, TOPS, STEAM ENGINES, YACHTS,
TOOL BOXES, ANIMALS, GAMES, MAGIC LANTERNS, &c.
French & English Confectionery.
FONDANTS, FRUIT BONBONS, DRAGEES, NOUGATTINES, BUTTER
SCOTCH, ASSORTED TOFFIES, CHOCOLATE CREAMS, &c., &c.
XMAS CAKES, GENOA CAKES, CAMBRIDGE CAKES.

TOM SMITH'S CRACKERS.
GORGONZOLA & CHEDDAR CHEESE.
NUTS
FILBERTS, BRAZILS, BARCELONAS AND ALMONDS.
LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

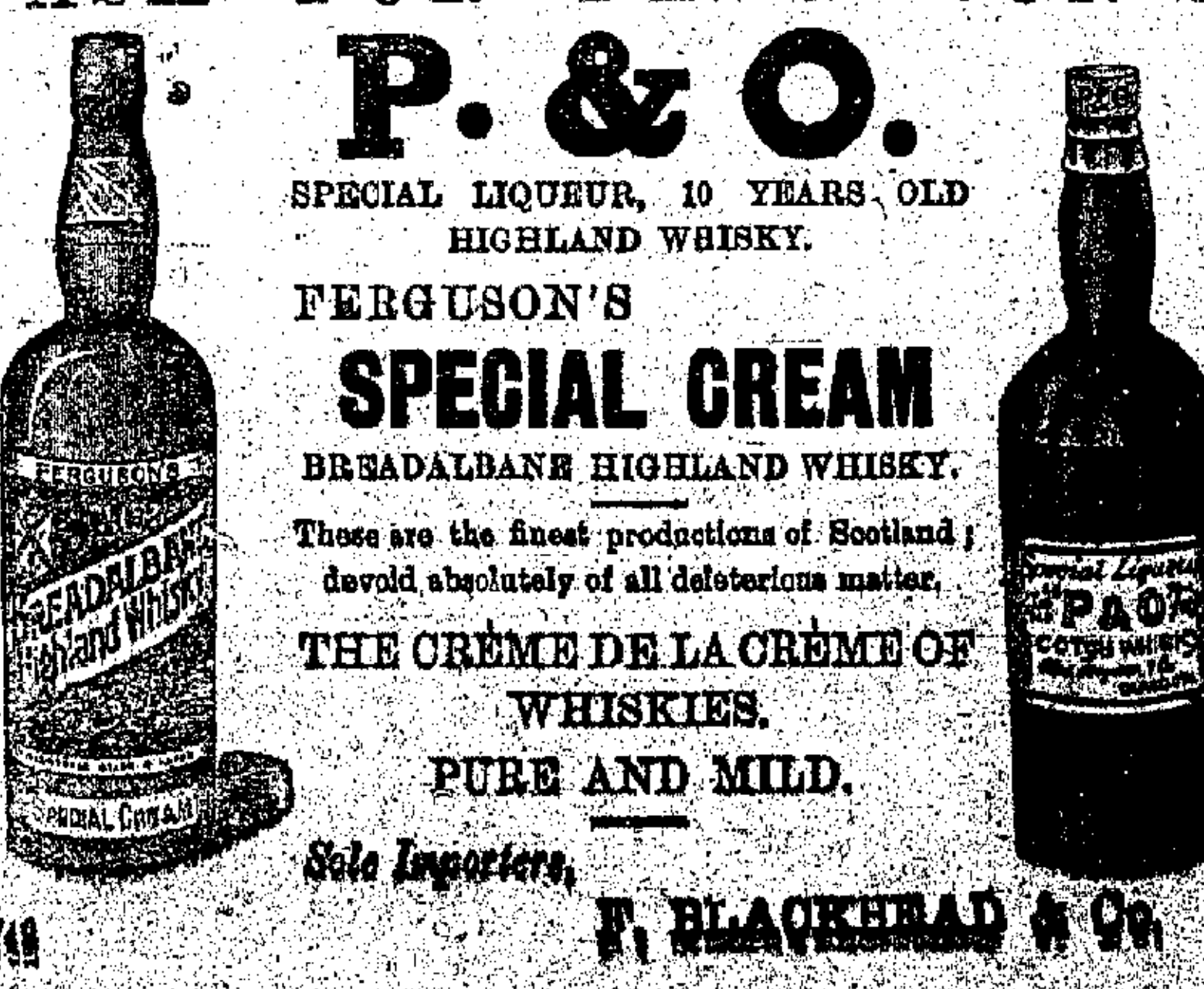
BROADWOOD PIANOS
NEW MODELS
MONTHLY PAYMENTS.
Lane, Crawford & Co.



HONGKONG HOTEL.
A FIRST CLASS HOTEL IN EVERY RESPECT.
GREAT IMPROVEMENTS:
NEW APPOINTMENTS, REFRIGERATOR.
NEWLY FURNISHED
MUSIC ROOM, READING & WRITING ROOM, SMOKING ROOM.
MAYOR IN ATTENDANCE FOR LADIES.
Ex P. & O. S. S. MALACCA.

St. Raphael Wine.
Extra Special Liqueur Whisky.
Bass's Ale
Guinness's Stout } Horsehead Brand.
Kupper's Pilsener Beer.
SOLE AGENTS,
Caldbeck, Macgregor & Co.,
Wine and Spirit Merchants. 2341

ASK FOR FERGUSON'S
P. & O.
SPECIAL LIQUEUR, 10 YEARS OLD
HIGHLAND WHISKY.
FERGUSON'S
SPECIAL CREAM
BREADALBANE HIGHLAND WHISKY.
These are the finest productions of Scotland,
and devoid absolutely of all deleterious matter.
THE CREME DE LA CREME OF
WHISKIES.
PURE AND MILD.
Sole Importers,
F. BLACKHEAD & Co.



Business Notices.

PARRITCH FOR MUSCLE, WHISKY FOR PLUCK!
WATSON'S DUNDEE WHISKY,
BEST ON EARTH.
WATKINS & Co., AGENTS.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO.,
LIMITED.

FINE-CLAY WORKS, DEEP WATER BAY, HONGKONG.
CEMENT FACTORY, GREEN ISLAND, MACAO.
PORTLAND CEMENT.
GLAZED STONEWARE BRAIN PIPES AND FITTINGS, GLAZED PAVING
BRICKS AND TILES, FIRE BRICKS AND FIRE CLAY,
&c., &c.
For Prices and further particulars, apply to
SHEWAN, TOMES & Co., General Managers.

WANTED.
AN ENGLISH ASSISTANT MASTER
in a Boarding and Day School for
January 31st, 1898.
Apply to Rev. R. F. COBBOLD, M.A.,
St. John's Cathedral,
Hongkong, December 21, 1897. 2503
THE DAIRY FARM CO. LIMITED.
NOTICE is hereby given that the Com-
pany has now Resumed Business.
All Orders should be sent in AT ONCE.
Hongkong, December 21, 1897. 2502
CUSTOMS NOTIFICATION.
No. 80.
NOTICE is hereby given that SATUR-
DAY, the 26th instant, and SATUR-
DAY, the 1st January, 1898, will be
observed as HOLIDAYS at the Kowloon
Customs Office.
Work at the OFFICE EXAMINATION OFFICE
and CUSTOMS STATIONS will proceed as usual.
H. M. HILLIER,
Commissioner of Customs
for Kowloon and District.
CUSTOMS HOUSE,
Kowloon, 21st December, 1897. 2504
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.
IN Accordance with Ordinance No. 6 of
1875, the Undermentioned BANKS
will be CLOSED for the Transaction of
Public Business on SATURDAY
and MONDAY, the 25th and 27th instant
respectively.
For the 'Chartered Bank of India, Aus-
tralia and China,'
T. H. WHITEHEAD,
Manager, Hongkong.
For the 'Hongkong and Shanghai Bank-
ing Corporation,'
T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.
For 'The National Bank of China, Limited,'
GEO. W. F. PLAYFAIR,
Chief Manager.
For 'The Mercantile Bank of India,
Limited,'
JOHN THURBURN,
Manager, Hongkong.
For the 'Banque de l'Indo-Chine, Hong-
kong Agency,'
L. BERINDOAGE,
Manager.
For the 'Bank of China and Japan, Ltd.,'
HONGKONG,
CHANTREY INCHBALD,
Manager.
For the 'Yokohama Specie Bank, Ltd.,'
S. OHNO,
Agent.
Hongkong, December 20, 1897. 2494

NOTICE.
A Special SESSION of Her Majesty's
JUSTICES OF THE PEACE will be held
in the Justices' Room, at the Magistrate's
Office, on TUESDAY, the 26th day of Decem-
ber, A.D. 1897, at 12 o'clock noon, for
the purpose of considering an application
from one G. H. SAWAL, for a Publican's
license to sell and retail intoxicating liquors
on the premises situate at Nos. 240, 242
and 244, Queen's Road Central, under the
sign of The Grand Hotel.
H. E. WODEHOUSE,
Police Magistrate,
Magistrate, Hongkong, Dec. 20, 1897. 2498
CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE,
LIMITED.
NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.
IN Accordance with Section 120 of the
Articles of Association the General
Agents, with approval of the Consulting
Committee, will on the 3rd January, 1898,
ISSUE INTEREST VOUCHERS of 60
per SHARE PAYABLE at the Hongkong
and SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, the
same being at the Rate of 10 PER CENT
PER ANNUM on the PAID-UP CAPITAL of the
Office for the year 1897.
The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Com-
pany will be CLOSED from the 15th
to the 31st instant, both days inclusive.
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Agents,
CANTON INSURANCE, LTD.,
Hongkong, December 15, 1897. 2451

THE HONGKONG HIGH-LEVEL
TRAMWAYS COMPANY,
LIMITED.
NOTICE is hereby given that the Thir-
teenth Ordinary General MEETING
of the SHAREHOLDERS of the above
Company will be held at the Registered
Office of the Company, 38 and 40, Queen's
Road Central, on FRIDAY, the 31st day
of December, at Noon, for the purpose of
receiving the Report of the General Man-
agers, together with a Statement of Accounts
for the year ending 30th November, 1897.
The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Com-
pany will be CLOSED from the 25th to
31st instant, both days inclusive.
JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers,
Hongkong, December 20, 1897. 2490
BOMBAY FIRE INSURANCE COM-
PANY, LIMITED.
THE Undersigned having been Appoint-
ed AGENTS of the above COMPANY,
are prepared to accept THEM HERE.
P. Y. TATA & Co.,
H. M. HILLIER,
Hongkong, April 1, 1897. 1898

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.
THE Undersigned OFFICES will be CLOSED for the
Transaction of Public Business on SATUR-
DAY and MONDAY, the 25th and 27th
instant respectively.
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Agents,
Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.,
General Managers,
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.,
N. J. EDE,
Secretary,
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.,
W. H. PEROVIAL,
North-China Insurance Co., Ltd.,
W. H. RAY,
China Trade Insurance Co., Ltd.,
SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
Yongtong Insurance Association, Ltd.,
J. B. COUGHTRIE,
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.,
W. H. RAY,
The British Insurance Co., Ltd.,
Hongkong, December 21, 1897. 2494

HONGKONG MARKET PRICES.

Corrected to Saturday, December 18, 1897.

At 1030 Cash per Dollar Mexican.

Chinese Natives.

Butcher Meat.

Bacon, English, lb.	—	—
" Am. Sugar cured, "	200	—
" Woodrow, "	240	—
" Japan, cured, "	—	—
Beef, sirloin & prime cut, catty	140	—
" Corned, " catty	140	—
" Roast, " "	130	—
" Soup, " "	110	—
" Steak, " "	120	—
Bullock's Brain, per set	60	50
" Tongue fresh, each	250	—
" " corned, "	310	—
" Head, " "	500	—
" Heart, " "	150	—
" Hump, Salt, catty	140	—
" Feet, " each	60	50
" Kidneys, " "	50	—
" Tail, " "	100	—
" Liver, " catty	70	—
" Tripe (undressed) catty	60	50
Calves Head and Feet, set	500	—
Hams, American, lb.	360	—
" Chinese, " "	260	—
" English, New, " "	460	—
" Japan cured, " "	—	—
" Shanghai, " "	240	—
Mutton Chop, " "	190	—
" Leg, " "	190	—
" Shoulder, " "	150	—
Pigs Chitlings, " catty	70	60
" Feet, " "	110	—
" Try, " "	160	—
" Head, " each	500	450
" Heart, " "	50	40
" Kidneys, " pair	70	—
" Liver, " lb.	100	—
Pork, Chop, " catty	190	—
" Corned, " "	330	—
" Leg, " "	190	—
" Fat or Lard, " "	180	—
Sheep's Head and Feet, set	250	—
" Heart, " each	50	40
" Kidneys, " "	70	—
" Liver, " lb.	150	140
Sucking Pigs, " each	\$1.75	\$1.25
Suet, Beef, " lb.	100	—
" Mutton, " "	110	—
Veal, " catty	130	—

Poultry.

Chicken, " catty	220	—
Capon, " "	250	—
Ducks, " "	170	—
Doves, " each	—	—
Eggs, Hen, " doz.	120	—
" Duck, " "	110	—
Fowls, " catty	180	—
Geese, " "	10	—
Hares, " each	400	—
Musk Deer, " "	\$2.50	—
Partridges, " "	800	—
Pigeons, " "	200	—
Pheasant, " brace	600	—
Rice Birds, " doz.	—	—
Quail, " each	110	—
Sparrows, " "	140	—
Turkeys, Cock, " catty	450	—
" Hen, " "	330	—
Teal, " each	280	—
Wild Ducks, " pair	900	—

Fish.

Barbel, " catty	140	—
Bream, " "	80	—
Bombay Ducks, " pieces	400	—
Clon Brook Water Fish, catty	100	—
Carp, " "	—	—
Codfish, " "	—	—
Codfish, Salt, " "	80	—
Crabs, " "	160	—
Cuttle Fish, " "	100	—
Dab, " "	100	—
Deer, " "	80	—
Dog Fish, " "	—	—
Fels, Congor, " "	—	—
Frank water, " "	200	—
Hals, Yellow, " "	180	—
File Fish, " "	—	—
Frog, " "	250	—
French Fish, " "	110	—
Garoupa, " "	200	—
Gudoon, " "	90	—
Gurnard, " "	80	—
Herrings, " "	100	—
" smoked, box	—	—
Halibut, " catty	100	—
Lobster, " "	100	—
Loach, " "	140	—
Lobsters, " "	170	—
Mackerel, " "	—	—
Mock Fish, " "	180	—
Mullet, " "	100	—
Oyster, " "	150	—
Parrish, " "	140	—
Pike, " "	180	—

Pike, " catty	—	—
Plaice, " "	—	—
Pomfret, White, " "	170	—
Pomfret, Black, " "	120	—
Prawns, " "	220	—
Ray, " "	50	—
Rock Fish, " "	80	80
Roach, " "	—	—
Salmon, (Canton), " "	203	—
Shark, " "	50	—
Salt Fish, " "	100	—
Skate, " "	50	—
Shrimps, " "	170	—
Snapper, " "	130	—
Soles, " "	110	—
Tench, " "	120	—
Turbot, " "	120	—
Turtles, small, fresh water, " "	350	—
Whiting, " catty	70	—
White Bait, " "	50	—

Fruits.

Apples, (California), catty	250	—
" (Tientsin), " "	—	—
" (Japan), " "	—	—
Bananas, fragrant, " "	30	—
" (brides), " "	30	—
Chestnuts, Chinese, " "	100	—
Carambola, " "	—	—
Cocconuts, " each	70	—
Ground Nuts, " catty	90	—
Grapes, " "	300	—
Lemons, China, " "	60	—
" Peel, " "	—	—
Lichees, Dried, " "	450	—
" Fresh, " "	—	—
Limes, " "	—	—
Mango, (Siam), " each	—	—
" (Manila), " "	—	—
Mangosteens, " dozen	—	—
Oranges, Sweet, catty	40	—
" Green, " "	30	—
" Red, " "	30	—
" Coddie, " "	30	—
Olives, " "	100	—
Pine-apples, " each	50	—
Pears, " catty	—	—
" (Tientsin), " "	100	—
Plum, Red, " "	—	—
Pumelo, " each	120	—
" (Siam), " catty	80	—
Raisins, Muscatel, " "	—	—
" Pudding, " "	—	—
Water Chestnuts, com. " "	40	—
" Mandarin, " "	50	—
Walnuts, " "	140	—

Vegetables, &c.

Artichokes, Shanghai, catty	60	—
Beans, (French), " "	150	140
" Long, " "	—	—
Beet Root, " each	20	—
Brinjals, Green, catty	30	—
" Red, " "	50	—
Brassicas, " "	20	—
Bamboo Shoots, " "	—	—
Cabbage, Chinese com. " "	30	—
Cabbage, " each	80	—
Cauliflower, " "	140	—
Carrots, " catty	60	—
Celery, Chinese, " "	50	—
" English, " "	80	—
Chilies Dried, " "	130	—
" Red, " "	90	—
Curry Stuff, English, " "	50	—
Cucumbers, " "	90	—
Bitter Squash, " "	—	—
Garlic, " "	50	—
Ginger, young, " "	50	—
Horse Radish, S'hal, " "	120	—
Indian Corn, " piece	—	—
Lettuce, (English), " each	10	—
Mushrooms, Fresh, catty	—	—
Onions, Bombay, " "	70	—
" Green, " "	30	—
" Shanghai, " "	—	—
" Japan, " "	50	—
Okraes, " "	—	—
Parley, English, bundle	10	—
Potatoes, Sweet, catty	30	—
" Shanghai, " "	—	—
" Japan, " "	20	—
" American, " "	—	—
" Foshow, " "	40	—
" Minco, " "	50	—
Pumpkin, " "	20	—
Purpline, " "	5	4
Peas, " "	25	20
Radish, " dozen	20	—
Rice, best quality, per picul	\$8.50	—
" Common, " "	\$4.50	—
Shalots, " catty	50	—
Splashes, (Chinese), " "	—	—
Splashes, " "	80	—
Snake Gourd, " "	40	—
Tomatoes, " "	80	—
Taro, " "	20	15
Turnips, Punt, (Long), " "	80	—
Vegetable Marrow, " "	—	—
" (Long), " "	40	—
Water Cress, " "	70	—

ALEXANDER WATSON, Auctioneer & Broker.

REPARTES.
The Daily News has been opening its columns to repartees. Some of them are clever. Here is one batch; Sheridan upon one occasion met the Prince of Wales, who was accompanied by the Duke of York. Sherry, said the Prince, "my brother and I have been talking about you, and we really don't know whether you are a fool or a knave." Stepping between the two Royal Princes, and taking an arm of each, the great Irishman replied, "May it please your Royal Highness, I am between both. A little girl was talking to a witty man when an elderly gentleman observed that witty children were generally stupid when they grew up. 'You, sir,' replied the child, 'must have been very witty when you were young.' Frederick the Great suffered a severe defeat at Kollin. Some time later, at a review, seeing a soldier with a deep cut in his cheek, Frederick asked, 'At what house did you get that scratch, my friend?' 'I got it,' replied the soldier, 'at Kollin, where your Majesty paid the reckoning.'"
Another correspondent sends the following:—Your mention of Erskine recalls a sharp retort of his to a murderer whom he had unsuccessfully defended. The man, after sentence had been pronounced, angrily said that he had not had justice done him, and with a savage glance at his counsel, "No," said Erskine, "but you will have it next Monday fortnight." For good humour I think the Irish beggar's reply to Sir Walter Scott can hardly be surpassed. Sir Walter, having vainly searched his pockets for a sixpence, gave the beggar a shilling, with the remark, "You owe me six pence, and may your Honour live till I pay you!" was the grateful and witty answer. Again, there is the old story of a Dissenting minister, the Rev. Matthew Wilkes. Hearing a drayman calling down imprecations on his horse's eyes and limbs, and thinking to shame him, he tapped him on the shoulder, "My friend," said he, "for that cursing and swearing I will bear evidence against thee on the Great Day of Judgment." "Oh yes," was the retort. "I dare say. The biggest rogue always turns King's evidence."

NEW PARLOUR GAMES.
Hosts of new and lively games have been added to this season's pastimes to beguile the long evenings now at hand. From English country houses, where young and old alike delight in games, comes a new one called "The Reviewers."
It is played as follows: Each member of the party is provided with a sheet of note paper. One writes the title, real or imaginary, of a book, folds the paper down and passes it to his next neighbour, who gives it an author, covers it and passes the paper on to the next, who adds a motto. The two persons following add opinions of the work. The writers of the large paper, and papers are passed around, so that there may be fresh reviewers for each paper.
When finally the papers are read aloud they are found, as a rule, to be most entertaining.
Another game which grows up, as well as children, are playing in England is called the royal game. It is played with a pack of cards, fifty-two in all. Each card bears an excellent likeness of some member of the royal family—the Queen, Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Devonshire, the Duke of Edinburgh and Hesse families. The game is a reminder of our old friend, authors.
A player, as soon as he has his family made up, places the cards as a trick, on the table, and the player who gets the most tricks wins the game. It is considered an interesting game, and useful in impressing on youthful minds the relationship of the royal family.
Another game played with cards, especially designed, is called St. Andrews. It is adapted from golf. Both this and the royal game may be purchased here. For St. Andrews the cards bear spirited sketches of various events in the game of golf, the tee-off, through the green, the approach, the hole-out and so on. The fifty-two cards are arranged in four sets, and two, three or four may play. Besides these there is a set of penalty cards, each of which counts as an extra stroke. The score is kept in the same manner as the other two in the pool.
As to the games with online playing cards, there are any number from which to choose.
Bitt smoke is an amusing game played with a complete pack of cards, divided into halves, one portion being dealt round to the players and the other remaining on the table, the last card dealt being trump. The cards rank as at whist. The tricks are of no value, but each player must follow the suit led or play a trump. For each trick gained the player takes a card from the undealt portion, and he who can hold out longest wins the game.
Snap-enough is a game played with any number with a full pack of cards. The players having placed before them five counters as "stock," the cards are dealt in the usual way. The motif of the game consists in playing a card of equal value with that of the next player. If the card played is of the same suit and of like value, you are snapper, and then, if a fourth card is played by the following player you are snored. Thus, say A plays a knave, and B likewise plays a knave, A is snipped, and places one counter in the pool. If C also has a knave B is snapper and snips C, and if D has the other knave C is snored and pays in three. The fourth, of course, is safe, because all the four knaves are now played. No person may play out of his turn, but every one must snip or snap when it is in his power. When any player has snored the pool his five counters are retired from the game and the pool becomes the property of the one whose hand holds out longest. The cards are sometimes dealt three or four times before the game is decided. The deal is taken in rotation.

Hongkong Tides.
The Tide Table given below has been compiled by the Nautical Almanac Office in London from the analysis of observations taken by means of an automatic tide recording machine in the Water Police Basin at Tsim Sha Tsui during the years 1887-8-9.
The zero of the table is Low Water Ordinary Spring Tides, which has been found to be 2 feet below mean sea level.
To obtain the depth of water on the tide gauge at the Victoria Naval Yard add 5 ft. 7 in., and on the gauge at Leamont Dock, Aberdeen, add 12 ft. 2 in. in the height given in the table.

23rd to 29th December.			
Rising Water.		Low Water.	
Time.	Height.	Time.	Height.
Thurs. 23	5.55	1.15	1.50
Fri. 24	5.55	1.15	1.50
Sat. 25	5.55	1.15	1.50
Sun. 26	5.55	1.15	1.50
Mon. 27	5.55	1.15	1.50
Tue. 28	5.55	1.15	1.50
Wed. 29	5.55	1.15	1.50

December 22nd.—At 10 A.M.			
Station.	Temperature.	Barometer.	Wind.
W'ootok.	29.98	—	—
P'okio.	30.28	—	—
K'ooli.	30.28	—	—
Nagasaki.	30.28	—	—
Kagoshima.	30.34	—	—
G'otzfeld.	30.55	—	—
Sharp Pt.	30.38	—	—
Amoy.	30.33	—	—
Swatow.	30.26	—	—
Canton.	30.26	—	—
Hongkong.	30.26	—	—
Vict. Peak.	30.23	—	—
Shaco.	30.27	—	—
Hai Phong.	30.23	—	—
Bohaino.	30.23	—	—
Manila.	29.92	—	—
U.S. James.	—	—	—

December 22nd.—At 10 A.M.			
Station.	Temperature.	Barometer.	Wind.
W'ootok.	—	—	—
P'okio.	—	—	—
K'ooli.	—	—	—
Nagasaki.	—	—	—
Kagoshima.	—	—	—
G'otzfeld.	—	—	—
Sharp Pt.	—	—	—
Amoy.	—	—	—
Swatow.	—	—	—
Canton.	—	—	—
Hongkong.	—	—	—
Vict. Peak.	—	—	—
Shaco.	—	—	—
Hai Phong.	—	—	—
Bohaino.	—	—	—
Manila.	—	—	—
U.S. James.	—	—	—

December 22nd.—At 10 A.M.			
Station.	Temperature.	Barometer.	Wind.
W'ootok.	—	—	—
P'okio.	—	—	—
K'ooli.	—	—	—
Nagasaki.	—	—	—
Kagoshima.	—	—	—
G'otzfeld.	—	—	—
Sharp Pt.	—	—	—
Amoy.	—	—	—
Swatow.	—	—	—
Canton.	—	—	—
Hongkong.	—	—	—
Vict. Peak.	—	—	—
Shaco.	—	—	—
Hai Phong.	—	—	—
Bohaino.	—	—	—
Manila.	—	—	—
U.S. James.	—	—	—

December 22nd.—At 10 A.M.			
Station.	Temperature.	Barometer.	Wind.
W'ootok.	—	—	—
P'okio.	—	—	—
K'ooli.	—	—	—
Nagasaki.	—	—	—
Kagoshima.	—	—	—
G'otzfeld.	—	—	—
Sharp Pt.	—	—	—
Amoy.	—	—	—
Swatow.	—	—	—
Canton.	—	—	—
Hongkong.	—	—	—
Vict. Peak.	—	—	—
Shaco.	—	—	—
Hai Phong.	—	—	—
Bohaino.	—	—	—
Manila.	—	—	—
U.S. James.	—	—	—

A DELATED SNAKE STORY.
"During my early boyhood I heard a great many stories about the glass snake," said Traffic Manager J. G. Schriever, of the Southern Pacific Company, to a representative of the New Orleans Times Democrat, "but it was a good many years before I placed any credence in the fact that the glass snake ever existed. It happened in an odd sort of way (my belief in the fact), and the existence of the creature was made manifest during a most delightful outing spent some years ago in Western Texas. In company with a number of friends I was camping on the banks of a small stream in the hill section, and it was during a jaunt along the banks of the stream that we came across a peculiar-looking snake about 18 ins. long lying upon the top of a smooth rock by the creek. I took up a stick to kill the snake, but before the stick reached it it suddenly went to pieces, just for all the world as if it had been in sections, the several joints remaining upon the rock, the head excepted, which dropped over the side of the rock into the grass. There was no blood spilled, and the joints looked as if they had been encased in the ends of a small stream. To my I was surprised would express it mildly. I had never seen anything like it before. I concluded to take away a section of the glass snake, for such my companions termed it, for a memento. I wrapped a joint in a piece of paper and took it to camp. That evening I unveiled it after a good look, and it about the middle with a stout piece of string and suspended it from a low branch near the tent. Then we all went to sleep. In the morning, before we had drunk our coffee, I thought to take a look at the section, and, to my unbounded astonishment, instead of a joint I had a whole snake. I was paralysed with astonishment. I did not see how in the duce a snake could grow from a single section, even if it was a glass snake, but the solution to the problem was even more remarkable than my first conjecture. The head and tail of the snake had set out on a still bent for the missing joint, and, having found it, had managed to reach it as it swung at the end of the string. And, not caring again to become separated from an important portion of its bone and sinew, had preferred to dangle in mid-air, possibly hoping by some miracle for circumstance to regain its liberty. Touched by so remarkable an exhibition of snake sagacity, we untied the string and the glass snake glided into the verdant fastnesses of the forest. I have never seen another reptile of the sort."

HONGKONG SHARE MARKET.
In their weekly share report, dated Hongkong, 18th December, Messrs. Bonjain, Kelly and Potts write:
Business has been fairly brisk, and a sharp advance in China sugars has to be recorded.
Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks have ruled very firm, and

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON.—F. ALAN, 11 & 12, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, E.C. GEORGE STRAIT & CO., 80, Cornhill, Gordon & Gorton, Ludgate Circus, E.C. BATES HENRY & CO., 37, Pall Mall, E.C. SAMUEL DUNN & CO., 150 & 151, Leadenhall Street, W. M. WILKS, 151, Cannon Street, E.C. ROBERT WATSON, 150, Fleet Street.

PARIS AND EUROPE.—MAYESSE, FAYE & CO., 18, Rue de la Grange Batelière.

NEW YORK.—THE CHINESE EXCHANGE, Office, 52, West 22d Street.

SAN FRANCISCO AND AMERICAN PORTS generally.—BLAN & BLACK, San Francisco.

AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND.—GORDON & GORTON, Melbourne and Sydney.

OCEANIC.—W. M. SMITH & CO., THE ASSOCIATED COMPANIES, OCEANIC, SINGAPORE, STEAMERS, & KELLY & WAUGH, Ltd., Singapore.

CHINA.—ALAN, A. D. CHINESE, Amoy, N. MOORE & CO., LIMITED, Fookien, H. W. CHURCHILL, Shanghai, LANG, CHAMBERLAIN & CO., and KELLY & WAUGH, Telukong, LANG, CHAMBERLAIN & CO., and KELLY & WAUGH.

Intimations.

THOMAS'S GRILL ROOM.

THIS Establishment has undergone extensive alterations. The DINING ROOM being now upstairs, and a large BILLIARD ROOM, containing Two New Brunswick and Water Tables, being added to the Hotel.

Rooms for Private Dinners. Entrance—Ice House Lane, Queen's Road, and Duddell Street, CHONG KONG.

J. C. GOODCHILD, Manager.

1899 THOMAS'S GRILL ROOM, WINDSOR HOTEL, HONGKONG.

THIS Establishment, situated in the elegant building known as "OON-NAUGHT HOUSE," offers First-Class Accommodation to Residents and Travellers. Passenger Elevator, from Entrance Hall to each floor, in charge of experienced Attendant.

Favourable Arrangements made for Families and for Monthly or Extended Periods.

BILLIARDS. P. BOHM, Proprietor and Manager, Hongkong, September 27, 1897.

NEW VICTORIA HOTEL.

ROTISSERIE.

Made à la Carte.

CHOPS, STEAKS, etc., etc., at any time, between 7.30 a.m. and 11.30 p.m.

Monthly Boarders at Moderate Rates.

Madar & Farmer, Proprietors.

Hongkong, September 3, 1898. 1786

SHARE LIST—QUOTATIONS—DECEMBER 22, 1897.

SHARE LIST—QUOTATIONS—DECEMBER 22, 1897.				
Stocks.	No. of shares.	Value.	Paid-up.	Closing Quotations, Cash.
BANKS.				
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Corp.	80,000 \$	12	all	70 % prem. = \$345.76, buyers
Bank of China & Japan, Limited (preference shares)	39,950 \$	6 1/2	all	nom.
" " " (ordinary)	1,000,000 \$	8 1/2	2 1/2	nom.
" " " (deferred)	1,250,000 \$	1 1/2	all	\$5.5, buyers
National Bank of China, Limited...	...	10 1/2	all	233
INSURANCE.				
Canton Insurance Office Co., Ltd....	10,000 \$	250	50	\$187 1/2, sellers
China Trade Insurance Co., Ltd....	24,000 \$	83.30	20	\$70, sellers
North-China Insurance Co., Ltd....	5,000 \$	100 1/2	20	Fls. 138
Strait Insurance Co., Ltd....	30,000 \$	10 1/2	20 1/2	all
Union Insurance Society, Ltd....	10,000 \$	25 1/2	50	\$230
Yungtze Insurance Association, Ltd.	8,000 \$	100 1/2	50	\$160
FIRE INSURANCE.				
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd....	20,000 \$	100 1/2	20	\$105, buyers
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	8,000 \$	250 1/2	50	\$365
DOCKS.				
H'kong & Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.	12,500 \$	12	all	70 % prem. = \$400, buyers
STEAMBOATS.				
China and Manila S. S. Co., Ltd....	6,000 \$	60	all	\$75, sellers
Douglas Steamship Co., Limited....	20,000 \$	50	all	\$57, buyers
H.K. & M. Steamship Co., Ltd....	20,000 \$	15 1/2	all	123 1/2
Indo-China S. S. Co., Limited....	30,000 \$	10 1/2	all	\$51
China Mutual S. S. Co.	20,000 \$	10 1/2	all	147.10, buyers
Do.	20,000 \$	10 1/2	all	\$2.10, buyers
Do.	20,000 \$	10 1/2	all	\$2.10, buyers
SUGAR.				
China Sugar Company, Limited....	20,000 \$	100	all	\$101, buyers
Luzon Sugar Company, Limited....	7,000 \$	100	all	\$40
WHAVERIES.				
R.K. & Kow Wharf & Godown Co.	20,000 \$	50	all	\$59
Wanchai Warehouse and Storage Company, Limited....	2,600 \$	100 1/2	37 1/2	\$44 1/2, sellers
LAND AND BUILDING.				
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Company, Limited....	50,000 \$	100 1/2	5	\$74
Kowloon Land and Building Company, Limited....	6,000 \$	5 1/2	3	\$19, sellers
Humphreys' Estate & Finance Co....	25,400 \$	10	all	\$94, sellers
West Point Building Co., Limited....	12,500 \$	50 1/2	all	\$2 1/2
TRAMWAYS.				
H.K. High-Level Tramways Co., Ltd.	1,250 \$	100	all	\$112, buyers
MINING.				
Jelaba Mining & Trading Co., Ltd....	40,000 \$	5	all	\$2.10
New Pajou Mining Co., Ltd....	80,000 \$	4	all	\$5.50, cum \$1 call
" " " (preference shares)....	18,000 \$	1	all	\$1.20
Great Eastern and Caledonian Gold Mining Co., Ltd....	18,000 \$	5 1/2	2 1/2	\$23
Société Française des Carbonnages au Tonkin....	12,000 \$	50	2 1/2	\$2.90
New Balaorad Gold Mining Co., Ltd.	50,000 \$	1	all	\$105, buyers
" " " (preference shares)....	75,000 \$	1	all	\$1.40
Rand Aust. Gold Mining Co., Ltd....	100,000 \$	1 1/2	13 1/2	\$2 1/2, buyers
Olivera Freehold Mines, Ltd....	A 14,000 \$ B 20,000 \$ C 25,000 \$	5 1/2 5 1/2 5 1/2	all	\$10 \$7 1/2 \$7 1/2
PLANTING, ETC.				
China-Borneo Company, Ltd....	7,500 \$	100 1/2	50	nom.
H. G. Brown & Co., Limited, in liq.	6,000 \$	50	all	li liq.
HOTELS, ETC.				
Hongkong Hotel Company, Ltd....	12,000 \$	50	all	\$50, sellers
DISPERMANES.				
A. S. Watson & Co., Limited....	80,000 \$	1	all	\$12
LIGHTING.				
H.K. and China Gas Co., Limited....	7,000 \$	1	all	\$123, sellers
Hongkong Electric Co., Limited....	30,000 \$	1 1/2	all	\$10, sellers
ROCK AND CEMENT.				
Green Island Cement Co., Ltd....	30,000 \$	1 1/2	all	\$33 1/2 \$12 1/2
MISCELLANEOUS.				
Bell's Asbestos Sheetings Agency, Ltd....	10,000 \$	1 1/2	15 1/2	all
Campbell, Moore & Co., Limited....	1,200 \$	1	all	\$84, sellers
See Ewe & Co., Ltd....	6,000 \$	2 1/2	2	\$32.85, buyers
Hongkong Bakery Company, Ltd....	60 \$	5	all	\$33
Hongkong Dairy Farm Co., Ltd....	10,000 \$	7 1/2	all	\$64, buyers
Hongkong Ice Company, Limited....	5,000 \$	2 1/2	all	\$118
H'kong Koppa Manufactory Co., Ltd.	6,000 \$	8	all	\$170
Hongkong Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd.	100,000 \$	100 1/2	2	\$17
See Ewe Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd....	10,000 \$	Fls. 10	Fls. 10	Fls. 100, sellers
International Cotton Manufacturing Co., Ltd....	10,000 \$	Fls. 10	Fls. 10	Fls. 110, sellers
Luen-Kung-Mow Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd....	8,000 \$	Fls. 10	Fls. 10	Fls. 103
Oramichael & Co., Ltd....	2,000 \$	2 1/2	20	\$0
See Ewe Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd....	5,000 \$	Fls. 500	Fls. 500	Fls. 530